

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2013 MAIN STREET BUSI-
NESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSO-
CIATION, INC. ANNUAL DINNER
AWARDS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc. Awards.

The Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc. is an association of business and professional men and women living in, owning, or operating a business or service in the Niagara Street Community. They are dedicated to improving and aiding in the development of the community. The members of the Association work together to make Main Street a progressive and serving community of which one can be proud. This year's awardees embody these noble values.

The recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc., Awards are the Chu's Dining Lounge, Dr. Margaret O'Keefe, Dr. David Taylor, Matt Green, Joseph Hotchkiss, Jim Haid, Robert Pascoal, Niagara Falls Clean Mob, Mitch Alegre, Austin Collins, Laurice Russell, and Kayla Carrisquillo.

Each of these impressive individuals has made significant contributions in various career and community endeavors. I am proud to see such dedicated, hard-working individuals be recognized tonight, and applaud their efforts to better our community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Main Street Business and Professional Association, Inc., Awards, and those who work tirelessly for this valuable organization. Their achievements are commendable and their devotion to our community is inspiring. I wish each and every one of them the best in all their future endeavors.

S.252, THE PREEMIE
REAUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced with Congressman Leonard Lance to expand research, education, and prevention of preterm birth. This legislation will reauthorize important programs created by the first PREEMIE Act, which I championed in 2006.

November is Prematurity Awareness Month, and it has come with good news. Just days ago, the March of Dimes announced that the preterm birth rate in America dropped for the sixth consecutive year to 11.5 percent largely due to the original PREEMIE Act.

But each year, half a million babies are still born prematurely. Preterm birth is the leading cause of newborn mortality and the second leading cause of infant mortality. Babies born

even a few weeks too early can require weeks to months of hospitalization after birth, and premature birth can sometimes lead to developmental delays and disability later in life.

In addition to the emotional and physical toll of prematurity, there are significant health care costs to families, medical systems and our economy. A report by the Institute of Medicine found the cost associated with preterm birth in the United States was \$26.2 billion annually, or \$51,600 per infant born preterm. While employers, private insurers and individuals bear approximately about half of the costs of health care for these infants, 40 percent is paid by Medicaid.

We are making great strides in reducing infant mortality—the U.S. infant mortality rate fell by 12 percent between 2005 and 2011, in part due to the decline in premature births. Unfortunately, we still fall far behind the majority of other developed countries, and this is something we have the power to change with continued research and prevention.

The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act will help us learn the causes of premature birth by requiring the HHS Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality to develop a report that identifies research gaps and opportunities to implement evidence-based strategies to reduce preterm birth rates. Appropriate representatives of the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health and Services Administration should be involved in developing this report along with the experts from the Advisory Committee.

In my Congressional District, Stanford University teamed up with the March of Dimes to establish the transdisciplinary March of Dimes Prematurity Research Center in 2011. These NIH-funded researchers are bringing cutting-edge medical discoveries from the lab to the bedside. In the last two years, they've made new discoveries that reduce preterm birth and made great strides in ensuring that the tiniest preemies are given the best chance at life.

The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act passed the Senate unanimously on September 25th and I ask my colleagues in the House to follow their lead and send this bill to the President's desk for his signature.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
COLLINS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the accomplishments of veteran James Collins of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, the Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year.

James Collins, born in Kentucky, served in the Air Force as a staff sergeant in Korea and Japan, as well as at the Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod. In 1965, Mr. Collins moved to Dartmouth, Massachusetts and has selflessly served veterans in his community, primarily as a Dartmouth Veterans Service Officer from 1996 to 2003. In his retirement, Mr. Collins has continued his service to the veteran community providing needed assistance and securing benefits for veterans and their families. In addition, Mr. Collins is a member of the Dartmouth Veterans Advisory Board which he

helped establish in 1997. He is the current Adjutant and Services Officer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9059 and is a member of the American Legion Post #307. In all of these organizations, he has worked tirelessly to increase membership and raise funds for projects such as local Veterans Memorials and the annual Dartmouth Memorial Day Parade. Mr. Collins has given so much to his community, and serves as an example of what it means to serve one's country.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize James Collins for his service in the Air Force and his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the work of Officer James Collins, the Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year.

KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT OF
2013

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3350, the Keep Your Health Plan Act of 2013.

The Obama administration's health exchange enrollment announcement yesterday is one of myriad reasons we must pass this bill. Frankly, these long-awaited numbers did not come as a surprise. A mere 106,185 patients registered for healthcare on the new marketplaces, a fraction of their 500,000 target. According to the Health and Human Services report, the number does not distinguish between those who've paid a premium and those who "selected a plan by clicking a button on the website." Mr. Speaker, the number of Americans who've had their health plans cancelled is in the millions—exponentially higher than those who've received coverage from Obamacare.

This disastrous law was destined to fail from the start. For more than three years now, we've warned the law is unworkable for small businesses, unfair to patients and physicians, and unaffordable for taxpayers.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH-
DAY OF CHIEF JOE MEDICINE
CROW

HON. STEVE DAINES

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary tribal leader in Montana, Chief Joe Medicine Crow, who recently celebrated his 100th birthday. As the Crow Tribe's last traditional War Chief and oldest living man, Chief Medicine Crow is not only a celebrated member of the Crow Tribe but an important historic figure in Montana.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army and joined the 103rd Infantry Division. As a proud member of the Crow Tribe he never went into battle without his war paint beneath his uniform and a sacred eagle feather beneath his helmet. During World War II he achieved the war deeds to be declared Chief. He also earned the Bronze Star for acts of bravery or merit for his